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DATE MAILED: 04/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,210

Applicant(s)

VISWANATH ET AL.

Examiner

Sarah R. Gedrich

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Claims 2 and 8 have been amended. Claim 16 has been canceled. Claims 1-15, and 17-25 are pending and have been examined in this non-final office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues:

- Regarding claim 1, Rivera in view of Katz fails to teach an applications content mapping module that is configured to map the tags of a first data format to tags of a second data format to determine data objects and attributes in a database corresponding to content in the second format.
 - In Response to this argument, please note the rejection of claim 1 under the 35 USC 102(e) rejection.
- Further in regard to claim 1, Rivera in view of Katz also fails to teach selectively retrieving one or more of the corresponding data objects and attributes according to a flag, wherein the flag indicates whether or not a corresponding data object or attribute is to be presented in the third format.
 - In Response to this argument, please note the rejection of claim 1 under the 35 USC 102(e) rejection.
- Furthermore, the Examiner has not provided a proper motivation for his proposed combination of Rivera and Katz.

Art Unit: 3625

- In Response to this argument, please note the rejection of claims 10 and 22. The Examiner further notes that Rivera and Katz teach the claimed invention. Rivera teaches translating from a first format to a second neutral format and to a following third format. Rivera further teaches that the system and method can be implemented on "most any hardware system" (paragraph 0064) and contain media that would recognize "any signals that may be transmitted to, from, or within the system (paragraph 0065). This would compel one of ordinary skill in the art to search for available hardware and media. This search would lead one to Katz, which uses wireless devices.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 25 January 2005 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement has been considered by the examiner.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225

Art Unit: 3625

USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Omum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1, 11, and 23 provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1, 11, and 26 of copending Application No. 09/982,214.

This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows: systems comprising: application content configuration module, a database for storing and a database for storing, the applications content translation logic, a server, a plurality of goods and

Art Unit: 3625

service catalogs residing in a database in the server, and a procurement and purchasing XML content translator/provider and the methods of using such systems.

Furthermore, there is no apparent reason why applicant would be prevented from presenting claims corresponding to those of the instant application in the other copending application. See *In re Schneller*, 397 F.2d 350, 158 USPQ 210 (CCPA 1968). See also MPEP § 804.

Claim Objections

Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 10 recites, "said particular client," where it should say, "said particular purchasing requisitioner."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed

invention. The claim recites "index information" without giving "index information" a specific definition or relating it to a likely definition in the specification. Is the "index information" the objects located in the database? Is the database the "index"? For the purposes of examining, the Examiner has interpreted "index information" to be listed information in a database.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-15, and 17-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "suitable" in claims 1, 2, 11, 17, and 23 is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "suitable" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. It is unclear what the "suitable" format or type is of content that is being presented or delivered.

The term "substantially" in claims 6,9, and 22 is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. The term "substantially" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The content would be either compliant or non-compliant.

All other claims are rejected based on their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 (Continued)

Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18-21 recite, "electronic purchasing," which is vague and indefinite. For examining purposes, the Examiner interprets claims 18-21 to be directed to an "electronic purchasing" system.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-9, 11-15, 17-21, and 23-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rivera et al. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0107699 (hereinafter referred to as "Rivera").

Rivera discloses a system and method for integrating non-homogenous systems for facilitating transactions. Rivera's system includes a data manager that translates data into a neutral format and then into the format desired by the buyer or supplier. Rivera's system allows for translation of documents in a complex "many-to-many"

Art Unit: 3625

trading partner environment without the users needing to acquire many translation modules to incorporate disparate systems. Rivera further discloses:

1. Referring to claim 1. An electronic purchasing and procurement system comprising:

- An applications content mapping module for automatically mapping electronic purchase requisition application content of a first data format processed internally to a second data format utilizing tags of said first data format to determine corresponding data objects: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that Rivera teaches using format maps to translate content of one data format to another. The Examiner further notes that format maps use tags to perform this translation.
- A database for storing data descriptors describing the contents of said electronic purchase requisition applications, said database further storing data object and attributes pertinent to said electronic purchase requisition applications content, wherein said tags of said first data format correspond to data objects and attributes in said database: A format map storage device configured to store a plurality of translation format maps. The document database configured to store the neutral format of the data item (Rivera: Claim 33). The Examiner notes that the databases of Rivera's system are capable of storing data descriptors or

format maps and data objects and attributes. These databases are located in the Data Manager and can be used combined or separately.

- Wherein said applications content mapping module is configured to map the tags of said first data format to tags of said second data format to determine data objects and attributes in said database corresponding to content in said second format: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that Rivera teaches using format maps to translate content of one data format to another. The Examiner further notes that format maps use tags to perform this translation.
- Applications content translation logic, in response to receiving a particular purchase request associated with a particular purchasing requisitioner, for dynamically presenting translated applications content in a third format, suitable for delivery to said purchasing requisitioner and also for translating content to said particular purchasing requisitioner for presentation thereto, by selectively retrieving one or more of said corresponding data objects and attributes according to a flag, wherein said flag indicates whether or not a corresponding data object or attribute is to be presented in said third format: The document viewer 147 allows individuals or users associated with trading partners to exchange, sort, track and view relevant documents and data. The relationship

data defines what data can be viewed, personal viewing preferences, last activity, etc. (Rivera: paragraph 0057). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335). The format map can also filter the document data so that a user may be able to view only specific fields of a document (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that the data manager allows for displaying the content in any format and for filtering the format, through flags, to show or hide specific information.

2. Referring to claim 2.

- An applications content configuration module coupled to said applications content mapping module for providing specific mark up language templates which, in combination with said electronic purchase requisition applications content, are translated into content suitable for presentation to a particular purchasing requisitioner: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335) (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that the

translation module translates the document and the data is formatted in combination with the document-viewing module and displayed in a suitable manner for a particular trading partner, buyer, or seller, etc.

3. Referring to claim 3.

- The applications content configuration module is extensible to include pre-defined data descriptors for the contents of said electronic purchasing requisition applications content: The data manager includes edge-adapters. The edge adapters 143 interface with an extensible Application Programming Interface (called an "internal adapter") 144, which can be a platform independent, plug-in architecture that allows new edge interfaces to be added as required, including OBI (Rivera: paragraph 0036). The Examiner notes that the edge adapters in the data manager used to map documents from one format to another could include OBI standard data descriptors.

4. Referring to claim 4.

- The applications content mapping module comprises data formatting logic for formatting the contents of said electronic purchase requisition applications content from said first format into said second format: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053).

5. Referring to claim 5.

- Pre-defined tag information responsive to said second data format for enabling said applications content translation logic to retrieve associating data information describing the contents of said electronic purchase requisition applications content: The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that the format maps would include pre-defined tag information to map one format to another. The data would then be formatted accordingly.

6. Referring to claim 6.

- The first data format of said electronic purchase requisition applications content is substantially compliant with Extensible Markup Language (XML) content: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format, such as XML or CBL (Rivera: paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that because the purchase requisition is translated from its native format to XML, the content is compliant with XML.

7. Referring to claim 7.

- The applications content mapping module further comprises a two step mapping logic for automatically mapping index information of said first data format into said tag information of said second data format: The data manager compares the product numbers in the purchase order against the relevant supplier's catalog data 206 to verify that the product numbers in the purchase order match actual

products (Rivera: 0052). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335) (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner interprets the index information to be listed or cataloged information of the database, the product identifiers of the suppliers catalogs, the suppliers listed with a buyer, etc. The Examiner further notes that the format map would allow for mapping corresponding tags and the associated data, the data of cataloged product numbers that are compared and stored in a database, into the second format.

8. Referring to claim 8.

- The applications content configuration module is an executable text file: The components of the present invention can be implemented in most any programming language and on most any hardware system (Rivera: paragraph 0064). The Examiner notes that the modules are capable of being executable text files.

9. Referring to claim 9.

- The XML content is substantially compliant with the Open Buying on the Internet Standard: New edge adapters 143 can be developed to support Universal Description Discovery and Integration (UDDI) and Open Buying on the Internet (OBI) (Rivera: paragraph 0036). The Examiner notes that the XML content would be compliant with OBI standards with the supporting edge adapters.

Art Unit: 3625

10. Referring to claim 11. An electronic purchasing and procurement request Extensible Markup Language (XML) content mapper in an electronic purchasing and procurement system, comprising:

- A server coupled to the XML content mapper: Buyers 105 and suppliers 110 are connected by the Internet 130 to a data manager 135. The data manager 135 operates as a collection, storage, processing, workflow management and/or reporting facility for attached buyers 105 and suppliers 110 (Rivera: paragraph 0030). The Examiner notes that the data manager is a server.
- A plurality of good and services catalogs residing in a database in said server, each of said catalogs comprising unique goods and services identification parameters: The data manager 135 can verify that the order data contained in the order form is proper by comparing the product numbers in the purchase order against the relevant supplier's catalog data 206 to verify that the product numbers in the purchase order match actual products (Rivera: paragraph 0052). A product information database configured to store product information (Rivera: claim 35). The Examiner notes that Rivera teaches multiple buyers and suppliers using the system. The Examiner further notes that multiple catalogs of the "relevant supplier" would be stored in the database of claim 35 that is part of the data manager or server.
- A procurement and purchasing Extensible Markup Language (XML) content translator for retrieving in-bound XML data of a first type from a source external to said server in response to purchase requisition request from a particular order

and generating an intermediary XML data of a second type and presenting out-bound XML data of a third type suitable for delivery in response to said purchasing requisition request: The data manager 135 acts to process and translate data transmitted between the trading partners so that data can be received in a format native to the particular trading partner regardless of the format used by any other trading partner (Rivera: paragraph 0030). The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format, such as XML or CBL, and then store the translated document in a document database 215 (Rivera: paragraph 0053). The purchase order generally is first translated from the neutral format to the supplier-specific format by using a format map associated with the particular supplier and possibly that particular document (step 250). Next, the translated purchase order can be provided directly to the supplier (step 255) (Rivera: paragraph 0054). The Examiner notes that the data from a requisition is translated from an initial format to a neutral or intermediary format to a third supplier format.

- XML data traversing logic for traversing said database to extract data objects and attributes corresponding to said particular purchase order according to a mapping of tag information of said in-bound XML data to said intermediary XML data: The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: paragraph 0053).

- A document exchange framework module coupled to said content mapper for providing data execution code for processing said purchase requisition request in said electronic purchasing and procurement system according to a flag for the out-bound XML data, wherein said flag indicates whether or not a corresponding data object or attribute is to be presented in said out- bound XML data: The relationship data defines what data can be viewed, personal viewing preferences, last activity, etc. (Rivera: paragraph 0057). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335). The format map can also filter the document data so that a user may be able to view only specific fields of a document (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that the data manager allows for filtering the format, through flags, to show or hide specific information.

11. Referring to claim 12.

- XML content formatting templates specific to purchase order line item data object and attribute information defining said goods and services in said purchase order: Upon receiving the purchase order from the buyer, the data manager can extract relevant data such as document type, buyer identity, supplier identity, purchase order number, order information, security information, etc. The data manager can then retrieve a translation map and workflow instruction based upon the extracted data. Using this translation map and workflow instruction, the

data manager can process the received purchase order and translate it into a neutral format (Rivera: paragraph 0008). The Examiner notes that order information is line item data object and attribute information.

12. Referring to claim 13.

- XML translation logic for translating tag information associated with said XML data said first type into corresponding tag information of XML data of said second type for processing by said electronic purchasing and procurement system: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that the format maps include logic for translating tag information.

13. Referring to claim 14.

- A data configuration file for providing configuration information corresponding to the content of said XML data of said first type to said XML translation logic: The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, also called a "style sheets" from the template database 211 and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330) (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that style sheets provide configuration information, such as margins, etc.

14. Referring to claim 15.

- The data configuration file is extensible to dynamically alter translation data provided to the XML translation logic: The internal adapter 142 also can accept new "plug-in" edge interfaces 143 as new document-exchange and e-business protocol standards are published. For example, new edge adapters 143 can be developed to support Universal Description Discovery and Integration (UDDI) and Open Buying on the Internet (OBI) (Rivera: paragraph 0036). The communication interface portion 194 of the data manager 135 is responsible for facilitating this exchange of documents. Although the communication interface 194 could be of almost any type, good results have been achieved using an internal adapter 144 and edge adapters 143 such as shown in FIG. 8. The use of an internal adapter 144 and edge adapters 143 provides the data manager 135 with the ability to receive data from many different types of systems and in many different formats 221 (Rivera: paragraph 0049). The Examiner notes that the system allows for "plug-ins" to update the system with developing standards. The Examiner further notes that the data configuration files would also be updated through these applications.

15. Referring to claims 17-21. Claims 17-21 are rejected on the same rationale as claims 11-1.

16. Referring to claim 23. A method of mapping Extensible Markup Language (XML) in an electronic purchasing system, said method comprising:

- Receiving a purchase request having a first XML data format: Upon receiving the purchase order from the buyer, the data manager can extract relevant data such as document type, buyer identity, supplier identity, purchase order number, order information, security information, etc. The data manager can then retrieve a translation map and workflow instruction based upon the extracted data. Using this translation map and workflow instruction, the data manager can process the received purchase order and translate it into a neutral format (Rivera: paragraph 0008). The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format, such as XML or CBL, and then store the translated document in a document database 215 (Rivera: paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that the native format could be an XML format.
- Retrieving XML content in a second XML data format in response to said first XML data format in said purchase request from data sources internal to said purchasing system, wherein said retrieving comprises mapping tags of said first XML data format to tags of said second XML data format to determine corresponding data objects: Using this translation map and workflow instruction, the data manager can process the received purchase order and translate it into a neutral format (Rivera: paragraph 0008). The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format, such as XML or CBL, and then store the translated document in a document database 215 (Rivera: paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that the translation/format maps use tags to perform the translation.

- Transforming said retrieved XML content into appropriate content suitable for an underlying markup language of an Internet browser used by a user submitting said purchase request by selectively presenting said retrieved XML content according to a write out flag, wherein said write out flag indicates whether or not a corresponding data object or attribute is to be presented: The document viewer 147 allows individuals or users associated with trading partners to exchange, sort, track and view relevant documents and data. The relationship data defines what data can be viewed, personal viewing preferences, last activity, etc. (Rivera: paragraph 0057). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335). The format map can also filter the document data so that a user may be able to view only specific fields of a document (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that the data manager allows for displaying the content in any format and for filtering the format, through flags, to show or hide specific information.

17. Referring to claim 24.

- Providing configuration files for retrieving template information specific to said first XML data format for transforming said XML content: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral

format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The Examiner notes that the format maps provide information or files defining the process for translating the data formats.

18. Referring to claim 25.

- Providing identification tags, which correspond to data objects that is used in, said transforming of said retrieved XML content: The translation module 195 can translate the purchase order from its native format to a neutral format. The translation module 195 accesses a database of format maps 200 that define the process for translating documents from their native format to the neutral format (Rivera: Paragraph 0053). The document-viewing module 210 then retrieves a format map, and the data for that document is formatted accordingly (steps 325 and 330). The document is then displayed in a familiar format despite the document's original format (step 335) (Rivera: paragraph 0058). The Examiner notes that tags are used within the format maps to define the translation and the associated data is formatted in combination with the tags.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10 and 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rivera et al. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0107699 in view of Katz et al. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0174000 (hereinafter referred to as "Katz").

Rivera discloses the system and method as discussed under the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) rejection. Rivera fails to disclose the particular client being a wireless personal computer system and the XML data being compliant with Wireless Markup Language content. Katz teaches a system and method of integrating and analyzing data through a plurality of software modules to assist in procurement, sourcing, and decision-support. Katz further teaches:

19. Referring to claim 10.

- The particular client is a wireless personal computer system: VCI user interface 208 may be accessed with a web browser via a PC, laptop, handheld WAP device, etc. (Katz: paragraph 0226). The Examiner notes that the system allows for the use of wireless protocols through the "handheld WAP device" and thus a "wireless personal computer system."

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Rivera to include the particular client as a wireless personal computer system as taught by Katz in order to service changing and established protocols (Rivera: paragraph 0036) and be usable with any signals that may be transmitted to, from, or within the system (Rivera: paragraph 0065).

20. Referring to claim 22.

- The XML data is substantially compliant with Wireless Markup Language content:
VCI user interface 208 may be accessed with a web browser via a PC, laptop, handheld WAP device, etc. (Katz: paragraph 0226). The Examiner notes because the client is using a "handheld WAP device"/"wireless personal computer system" the system is compliant with Wireless Markup Language content.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Rivera to include the XML data that is compliant with Wireless Markup Language content as taught by Katz in order to be usable with any signals that may be transmitted to, from, or within the system (Rivera: paragraph 0065).

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sarah R. Gedrich whose telephone number is (571) 272-8121. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30am - 5:00pm, alternating Fridays.

Art Unit: 3625

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (571) 272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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